REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-7 and 9-12 have been amended to replace the phrase "characterized in that" with "wherein" to provide proper antecedent basis for terms recited therein and thereby conform to U.S. practice. Claims 3-9 have been amended to depend solely on Claim 1; and Claim 12 has been amended to depend solely on claim 9 thereby eliminating any multiple dependencies and more clearly defining the Applicants' invention. In addition, the element numbers have been removed from all claims in accordance with U.S. practice. Applicants respectfully submit that no new matter is introduced by these amendments, and requests entry thereof prior to examination on the merits.

AUTHORIZATION

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required for consideration of this Amendment to Deposit Account No. 13-4500, Order No. 4791-4018. A DUPLICATE OF THIS DOCUMENT IS ATTACHED.

Respectfully submitted,

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Dated: February 8, 2006

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